



USDA FOREST SERVICE

Southern Tier Forest News

SUMMER / FALL 2011

EMPLOYER OF CHOICE NEWSLETTER

Each issue features a different southern tier national forest. This issue was prepared by the Monongahela National Forest

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Monongahela NF Happenings	1
Shawnee NF Happenings	4
Mark Twain NF Happenings	6
Hoosier NF Happenings	8
Wayne NF Happenings	10
Share your ideas!	12

Spotlight on Monongahela National Forest

DeVela Clark came to the Monongahela in May 2011, as the Deputy Forest Supervisor. He previously served as District Ranger on the Wayne National Forest where he was also an advocate on the Southern Tier team.

He grew up in Whitmire, SC, a small rural community, within the Sumter NF. It was here he developed an early passion for the outdoors.

While in high school, DeVela was first introduced to the Forest Service while working as a Youth Conservation Corps enrollee. This exciting summer experience led to his decision to further his education and pursue a career in the field of natural resources. As a result, De-



Devela Clark, Monongahela Deputy Forest Supervisor

Vela studied Forestry at Tuskegee University and earned a B.S. in Forest Management at North Carolina State University.

Over his 19 year career, he has enjoyed working at various levels of the organization in posi-

(Continued on page 2)

Monongahela Employees Offer Support to Two of Their Own During Difficult Year



For Forest Engineer Jacob D'Angelo it started with a swollen spot on the side of his knee. For Kate Goodrich-Arling, Staff Officer for Public and Legislative Affairs, Lands, and Planning it started with a lump in a breast. For both of them a difficult year was ahead. Fortunately the Monongahela National Forest lead-

ership and fellow employees rallied to offer all kinds of support to the two, who are still completing treatment for cancer.

An athletic person, Jacob didn't at first consider the swollen knot to be anything other than some sort of injury, although it didn't really hurt. He did some physical therapy, kept on working, and enjoying his young fam-

(Continued on page 2)

Spotlight (cont.)



DeVela works with a YCC and college summer student digging soil pits for soil chemistry analyses related to acid deposition, soil sensitivity and timber harvesting.

tions such as forester, timber management assistant, deputy district ranger, district ranger and currently deputy forest supervisor on the Monongahela NF.

DeVela has made a strong effort in his transition to Deputy Forest Supervisor to work with the Program Managers on the Forest. He has gotten to know his staff and the issues they face every day to providing guidance to the LT on Forest-wide Issues. Soil Scientist Stephanie Connolly noted DeVela spent a day with her digging soil pits. Connolly said, "Soils work on the Forest can be very hard work. It is refreshing to see a new leader come to the Forest and immediately take interest in the issues, our work, and how all of the changes that continually take place in FS affect not only the job that we do but us personally."

DeVela believes that the Forest Service is an employer of choice because as an agency it works towards embracing diversity in all its attributes. It is also committed to developing employees to their full capacity and ensuring they have a good work-life balance.

DeVela says the Monongahela has been aggressive in their recruiting efforts to increase

diversity with efforts underway to use direct hiring authorities for veterans, Job Corps enrollees, and persons with disabilities. He said they have worked with the regional office civil rights staff to implement several successes. He complimented the Student Career Experience Program and its ability to introduce individuals to the agency and then bring them back full time upon completion of the program.

DeVela said on the MNF they place an emphasis on Individual Development Plans. With declining budgets it is important to be creative and flexible so people can continue to grow and learn in their jobs. The MNF uses cross-training, informal mentoring, details, and special assignments to help employees continue to get those opportunities. He noted "when it comes to employee development we're not about excuses, we're about solutions." He said the Forest doesn't see this as not just a supervisor's responsibility but takes a team approach.

He noted the MNF has hosted several trainings and invited employees from neighboring forests to help meet training needs. The Forest has also been supportive in many cases of allowing employees to have work at home agreements.

DeVela believes Region 9 stands apart from other FS regions because of its dedication to employee development. In this region he has seen a priority put on employees being successful in their jobs.

Forest Offers Support (continued)

ily, and assumed the swelling would go down. When it didn't he sought an MRI on January 27, 2011, the results of which alarmed his medical team. A surgical biopsy a few days later confirmed he had a high grade osteosarcoma, of no known origin. Jacob was confined to crutches due to the estimated 60% loss of bone in his leg above the knee. Even a normal walk around the house could have caused a break. He would remain on crutches for months until his leg healed sufficiently to bear weight following surgery.

At the same time as Jacob was noticing an issue that wouldn't go

away, Kate found a breast lump while bathing. It didn't feel normal at all, so she immediately followed up with her doctors, undergoing tests and biopsies. Less than 24 hours after Jacob was diagnosed with cancer, Kate also received bad news: stage IIIc invasive ductal carcinoma. Although this is the most common variety of breast cancer, in Kate's case it behaved oddly and aggressively. Because it had already moved into the lymph system a lengthy treatment was ahead with an uncertain prognosis.

In early February Kate began 7 months of several types of chemotherapy to shrink the tumor to enable surgery and eventual radiation. In mid

Monongahela National Forest
200 Sycamore Street
Elkins, WV 26241
Phone: (304) 636-1800

February Jacob had extensive surgery to replace a large portion of his leg above and below his knee, sparing only his kneecap itself. Referred to as a partial leg replacement this type of surgery has only been available for the last 10 – 15 years. He then began his journey with chemotherapy.

While both Kate and Jacob have been the beneficiaries of recently available treatments for their respective cancers, they are equally fortunate to work for the Forest Service. The professional and personal support offered makes both of them proud to be Monongahela employees. Workplace accommodations ranging from work at home agreements and use of government equipment to having other employees cover critical duties allow them to continue to work as they are able.

In addition to those accommodations which have kept them working at least part time, the Monongahela employees rallied to offer personal support to Kate and Jacob. Meals have been cooked and delivered; snow plowed; house cleaning done; special t-shirts (“Fight Like a Girl” for Kate, and “Cancer Bites. Bite Back” for Jacob) designed and worn by many employees on certain days; gardening chores done; and literally 100s of cards and notes of encouragement sent. Employees have donated time, and decorated vehicles to bring a smile. A special birthday bash was held. Fellow employees (men and women) dyed their hair pink for a staff meeting. A flock of flamingoes and a delegation of employees greeted Jacob and Kate at the Forest’s annual Relay for Life event.



Already friends, the shared cancer journey has brought the two close. They compare chemo regimens and test results. They offer each other support as the next hurdle approaches. They walked the survivor lap at the Relay together. They also agree that without the professional and personal support offered countless times by countless fellow employees neither would have been able to go through 2011 as well as they have. While neither is finished with treatment both are looking forward to the time when a normal workday is just that....normal!



Salazar Thrives in West Virginia

The mountains of West Virginia are a long way from sunny New Mexico, but that didn't stop Francisco Salazar from moving to Marlinton, WV in deep of winter. Francisco arrived on the Monongahela National Forest in January 2011 via the Career Interns Program (CIP). He was one of seventeen young adults selected from 120 interviews during the Annual Society of American Foresters conference. While the West Virginia landscape was new to him, he knew he enjoyed working for the Forest Service. Francisco worked as a STEP, in lands and fire, while attaining a bachelor's degree in biology. He enjoyed learning about the Forest Service mission regarding sustainability and multiple-use resource management, and kept busy replacing boundary posts and reseeding after wildland fire, mule packing into wilderness, and supplying goods to lookout towers.

Francisco Salazar

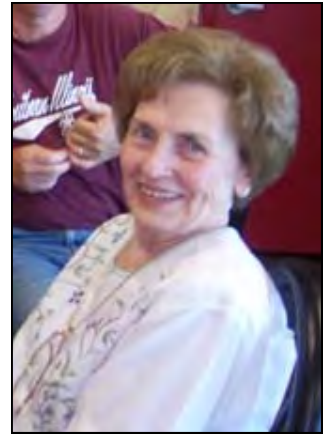
As early as high school Francisco was an active member of his community, serving the public as an emergency medical technician (EMT) and volunteer fire fighter. Francisco maintains his EMT certification, and if he were not already pursuing a career with the Forest Service, his alternate dream job would be to work for a large city structural fire department. He says, “I like the idea of being the person that other people would call when in crisis or need.” Working for the Forest Service allows him to continue to serve public needs, both directly and indirectly, through trail maintenance, campground compliance, and wildland firefighting. He has spent much

(Salazar story continued on page 7)

Shawnee NF Happenings

Early Forest Service Woman Paved the Way

Cleo Bucklew began her Forest Service career 100 feet up in the air. Hired by the Shawnee National Forest in the mid 1950's as a seasonal fire lookout, Cleo was responsible for spotting wildfires on the Elizabethtown Ranger District. During fire season, Cleo's day began by reporting directly to the Peters Creek Lookout Station and climbing to the top of the tower. She would then spend the day high above the trees, watching for rising smoke that might indicate a potential wildfire.



Peters Creek
Lookout Station
(above) and Cleo
Bucklew (top right)

When smoke was observed she would determine the location of the fire and radio it in to the District Office. Cleo recalled one particularly unusual incident where after spotting a smoke and calling in the coordinates, Dispatch relayed back that she needed to recheck her coordinates, because triangulation put the fire in the middle of the Ohio River! She was puzzled but verified that she had reported the correct coordinates. After sending someone to investigate the fire, it

turned out to be located on a passing riverboat!

Cleo was among the first women to be employed by the Shawnee, especially in a capacity outside of the traditional gender roles of the day. She tells a story about a man and his wife that once drove up to the Lookout Station. She came down from the tower to greet them and the man surprisingly exclaimed, "Why, that's a woman up there." Despite working in a male dominated environment, Cleo never considered it difficult and stated that she always felt like she was "just one of the boys."

Cleo spent her entire career with the Forest Service, working for a number of years on the Shawnee, as well as the Kaskaskia Experimental Forest and Golconda Job Corps Center. She retired in 1986 after 28 plus years of service. Today, 48% of the permanent full-time employees on the Shawnee are women. Cleo was one of the first that helped to pave the way for future generations of female employees.

What can a man from Nevada offer the Shawnee NF?

Kameron Sam
Deputy District Ranger
Shawnee NF
Vienna, IL

Background

I was born and raised in Yerington, a small town in western Nevada. Being of American Indian heritage, I learned the culture and traditions of the Paiute/Shoshone Indian people. Like most low-income American Indian families, raising animals and caring for the land to support our livelihood was our main objective. While in high school, my family visited the Humboldt-Toiyabe (H-T)

Shawnee NF
50 Hwy 145 South
Harrisburg, IL 62946
1-800-MY-WOODS
(618) 253-7114

National Forest to pick pinion nuts. Although I learned of the agency and its mission, it was not until I went to Haskell University in Lawrence, Kansas that I knew I wanted to become a part of the U.S. Forest Service. An agency liaison became my mentor, and in 1995, I became a seasonal firefighter in Nevada.

While on a fire in northern Nevada, I met a range specialist who introduced me to rangeland management, and I knew I wanted a career in range. I later got on with the Cooperative Education Program (currently the Student Career Experience Program). At the time, I didn't realize how important this opportunity would be to my future. I transferred to Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas to pursue a Bachelor's degree in agriculture. In 2000, I graduated and was converted to a Rangeland Management Specialist on the Mountain City District of the H-T NF.

I realized I could integrate some of my traditions and beliefs into my work. However, I was unsure of the agency's emphasis on diversity and how I fit in. I observed an under-representation of minorities in the workforce. When I inquired about the possibility of outreaching to American Indian reservations, I was given the opportunity to join an employee development/civil rights team on the Forest. During the time I spent as the Temporary Employee Special Emphasis Program Manager, I could outreach to seasonal employees and serve as an example for those with an ethnic background. I believe my idea for a more diverse workforce began during this time. I was focused on ethnic backgrounds, but I also saw a clearer picture of how much more effective management of the national forests would be if employees had diverse backgrounds and wide-ranging ideas.

After two years on the H-T, I transferred to the Sawtooth NF in Idaho. I discovered that mentoring was an important aspect of guiding employees and helping them achieve their full potential. Five years ago, I transferred to the Black Range Ranger District of the Gila NF and was introduced to the most unique rangeland in the U.S. The Southwest culture helped form my vision because it relies on relationships rather than process to achieve land management goals. I served as chairman of an employee development/civil rights group that focused on employee motivation and recognition. It was during this time that I felt I was finally ready to advance my career and become a district ranger. My time on the Gila was invaluable—I learned the importance of building long-term relationships, how to balance my work and my family, and how every food can be made better with green chile.

In the spring of 2011, I transferred to the Shawnee National Forest as Deputy District Ranger on the Hidden Springs Ranger District. While I get accustomed to the local culture, my hope is to inspire a diverse array of ideas to manage the Forest by building relationships with the people who call southern Illinois home.



Reaching out to the Hispanic community to teach children about monarch butterflies



Su Casa Migrant Head Start in Cobden, Illinois provides child care and a comprehensive program of health, parent involvement and social services for preschool children of low-income migrant and seasonal farm workers. This summer, Interpretive Specialist Linda Hauser, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Intern Karina Enriquez and Americorps VISTA Beth Dorgay visited Su Casa for a monarch butterfly presentation. During the presentation, the children learned about the life cycle of a monarch butterfly and visited a "science center" where they could make observations about different species of preserved butterflies, courtesy of the Missouri Botanical Garden's Butterfly House. Then the children 'became' monarch butterflies, migrating from southern Illinois down to Mexico, eating, resting and pollinating along the way. Finally, they made their own butterfly craft to take home, along with a bi-lingual handout to share with their families about the monarchs and their connection to Mexico.

The cultural symbolism behind the monarch butterfly is very significant to Mexican-Americans. Monarchs follow the same migratory path as the migrant farm workers do from Mexico to the U.S., and back again. As a result, this and future programs help the children make a connection

Continued on page 7

Mark Twain NF Happenings!

Working With Partners to Restore Plant Diversity

The Mark Twain National Forest and Lincoln University Native Plants Program will partner under a challenge cost share agreement to enhance the MTNF's native plant material program (NMP) by propagating native plants for use on National Forest System lands and to contribute to maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem health through use of locally adapted, populations of native species for restoration, rehabilitation and revegetation.



Native plant garden.

The Forest and the University, along with other partners, would collect seeds from plant species of conservation concern, rare and conservative Ozark endemics, and important pollinator species located on the Mark Twain. Students along with academic professional from Lincoln University will collect seed from native plants located on the Forest in accordance with seed collection protocol from the National Seed Lab.

The plant material would be used to augment restoration efforts of natural terrestrial plant communities on the Forest, burned area emergency rehabilitation and other areas of disturbance that may require restoration. The seed will also be used in native pollinator gardens located at administrative sites on the Forest and in the Native Plant Outdoor Laboratory located at the University campus and other native plant demonstration gardens located at the University campus and Experimental Farms.

Career Day with Mingo Job Corp Students

A career day designed to introduce and inspire today's youth to pursue a forest career was held on June 9th 2010 on the Mark Twain National Forest. Both the Poplar Bluff and Eleven Point Ranger Districts participated in the event contributing SCEP students, Forest Service employees, Youth Conservation Corps students, and Volunteers to meet with Mingo Job Corps students so that they could demonstrate and discuss various career paths the Forest Service has to offer.

Students were able to go into the field and interact with Forest Service employees in the areas of timber sales, law enforcement, recreation management, business administration and forest planning, giving the students hands on experience.



Demonstrating the large body of information these students took home with them can be described from a demonstration given by Bill Konen- Sale Administrator (photo at left). In this exhibit he had taken students out on a timber sale where they were able to see the components involved in selling timber. Students were also instructed in how to make sure that the tree species and volume requirements for a specific timber sale stand defined in a contract

Mark Twain National Forest
401 Fairgrounds Rd.
Rolla, MO 65401
Phone: (573) 364-4621



were met, and found that this was primarily achieved by on site inspections of operations that take place on the ground. They also learned that these inspections determine the impact to system roads, ensures land features are protected, and that safety requirements are being utilized in addition to learning that the importance of the administrator is to provide guidance using good communication skills with sale purchasers, the public, and internal co-workers.

This event, held June 9, 2011, was a wonderful opportunity where young minds were able to have questions regarding numerous career paths, and forest operational details pertaining to those places visited answered.



Stories Continued.....

(Salazar story continued from page 3)

of the summer at Lake Sherwood Recreation Area, where Francisco says, "A highlight of working at Lake Sherwood is seeing the beach full, and seeing people enjoy, really enjoy, their public lands."

Since arriving on the Monongahela, Francisco has worked in variety of resource areas, and his duties include staffing Lake Sherwood, fire details, timber marking, tree release, and wildlife surveys. Francisco spoke of his goals for working for the Forest Service. He says, "Overall, I want to enjoy and find fulfillment in my job, be a valuable team member, and help maintain the health, diversity, and productivity of our public lands." Francisco, the Monongahela, and the Forest Service, are lucky to have you.



Monarch Butterflies (Shawnee NF)...continued from page 5

with their own history and cultural heritage and the natural heritage of their home in southern Illinois. By helping the children form a stronger bond with the natural world, we are helping to grow a new generation of southern Illinoisans

who are more connected to the Shawnee National Forest. This kind of contact with FS employees and Hispanic college students enables these youngsters to begin to picture themselves working in the great outdoors and following a new-found passion – all from chasing butterflies!

Hoosier NF Happenings

American Chestnut Trees Return to the Hoosier

In the early 1900s, American chestnut trees thrived in Appalachia and beyond, with a natural range that extended from Maine to Mississippi and into southern Indiana. Their rot-resistant wood was prime construction material. Their nuts fed wildlife, fattened livestock, and brightened Christmas songs.

By the 1950s, nearly every American chestnut tree was dead. The trees were victims of the chestnut blight, a fungus that hitched a ride to the U.S. from Asia in the late 19th or early 20th century.

Now, more than a century after the blight arrived in the U.S., American chestnuts are coming back. One of the first places they're taking root is on the Hoosier National Forest.

Approximately 100 American chestnut seedlings were planted on a one-acre plot in the southern part of the forest in early April. It was one of the nation's first plantings of these special seedlings, which are actually 15/16th American chestnut and 1/16th Chinese chestnut — a genetic mix that should make them resistant to the blight.

The seedlings are the product of what's called a back-cross breeding program that was started in the 1980s by the American Chestnut Foundation, a nonprofit organization that wants to return the chestnut tree to its native forests.

In the program, American chestnut trees and Chinese chestnut trees — which evolved to survive the fungus over many millennia in Asia — were bred to create seedlings that were half American, half Chinese. Those seedlings were then inoculated with the blight, and the most resistant ones were bred again with American chestnuts.

The process was repeated over several generations, yielding trees that should be blight resistant like the short, bushy Chinese chestnuts but like American chestnuts in every other respect, from their tall, straight appearance to the quality of their wood.

Like other plantings of the new chestnuts, the planting on the Hoosier is a trial that will help researchers such as Jim McKenna, who has worked with the chestnuts since 2003, determine to what extent the program has succeeded.

"The question is, are these trees fully resistant?" says McKenna, an operational tree breeder in the U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station's Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center at Purdue University. "The only way to know is to grow them out in nature where the disease exists."

As Hoosier Silviculturist Chris Thornton says, "It was time to see how these trees would do."

American chestnuts were planted on a grid in a former timber sale area on the Hoosier National Forest.

Hoosier National Forest
811 Constitution Avenue
Bedford, IN 47421
Phone: (812) 275-5987
Fax: (812) 279-3423



Kirk Larson (foreground) and Ron Doyle plant American chestnut seedlings on the Hoosier.



To give context to the trees' performance, the planting also included pure American chestnut trees, pure Chinese chestnut trees, and oaks — about 500 trees in all. To prevent the Chinese chestnuts from cross-pollinating with other trees and establishing themselves in the forest, Hoosier staff will cut the Chinese chestnuts down before they flower and produce nuts, which would normally happen in about 15 years.

Researchers will have to wait even longer — 20 to 30 years — to fully evaluate the new chestnuts, McKenna says. In the meantime, more trees will be planted and additional trials will begin in the Hoosier next spring and in three Indiana state forests by 2015.

McKenna and his colleagues are also crossbreeding the most blight-resistant of the new American chestnuts to increase the likelihood of full resistance. By 2030, McKenna hopes, the Indiana Division of Forestry's tree seedling nurseries will be able to sell fully resistant American chestnut trees to the public.

Right now, though, the trees in this first planting just need to survive. More than two-thirds of the various chestnuts have died due to a fungus — different from the chestnut blight — that proliferated in this year's excessively wet spring.

Thornton calls this latest challenge a "minor hiccup" that won't affect the chestnut's comeback in the long run. "We're learning from the trees that died," he says. "We'll be able to watch the ones that live and grow and flourish, and transfer that knowledge to a large scale: several hundred acres at a time instead of just one."

Still, he doubts the chestnut will ever return to its former glory. "It'll never be like it was historically," he says, "but we'll at least have it in the ecosystem again."

Employee Snapshot: Chris Thornton

Chris Thornton is the Hoosier's Forest Silviculturist and has been with the Forest Service for 15 years. He had two uncles who have retired from the Agency so he has family roots established. Chris graduated from Purdue University, home of the Boilermakers, with a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management. He actually started out studying pre-veterinary, and switched to Forestry after walking by the Purdue Forestry Building and thinking "hey, that sounds like fun."

Chris began his Forest Service career as a GS-3 Timber Marker on the Hiawatha National Forest. Since that position he worked on the Allegheny and is now on the Hoosier where he became a certified silviculturist in 2006. Chris also assists the Wayne and Shawnee as needed.

In addition to overseeing the historic planting of blight resistant chestnuts on the Hoosier, Chris has had many memorable experience over his career. Among these, was when Chris was first hired as a permanent employee. After working as a seasonal he had applied for the NEPA Specialist position on the Allegheny. Chris' wife, Mary Schoeppel (Hoosier GIS Coordinator) had heard of his selection before the official offer (this was obviously before ASC was created). When Chris arrived home from work, Mary presented him with the NEPA law book.

Another day that sticks out for Chris is when the Hoosier sold a timber sale — the first in many years! Chris is proud to have been part restarting the timber program and helping move the Hoosier toward having a "nice little program." Chris recalls visiting the Goosetown Salvage Sale with Tom Thake (ret.) and "enjoying the sounds of skidders and saws working the land." Chris added, "There have been some growing pains since then, but we are at a point where we are making a positive difference to the ecosystem."

Chris feels that he has put in a good day's work when he comes home from the woods feeling like he made progress on a project. According to Chris, "So much time is spent in frustration filling out databases or waiting for a response." He added, "It is impressive when we can all work together with the same passion for improving the Forest."



Chris Thornton, Hoosier NF Silviculturist

Wayne NF Happenings

New District Ranger Takes the Reins



Gala Goldsmith

Gala Goldsmith is the new Athens District Ranger for the Wayne NF. A native of Mississippi, Goldsmith came to the Wayne from the Shawnee NF where she had served as the former Acting District Ranger for the Mississippi Bluffs District.

Prior to this position, she served as the National Forests in Mississippi's Watershed Program Manager and Hydrologist. A 19-year Forest Service veteran, Gala also served as Acting District Ranger of the Bienville NF, Acting District Ranger of the Holly Springs NF, and Acting Staff Officer of Recreation, Fish, Wildlife, Range, and Heritage Resource Management Programs for the National Forests in Mississippi.

During her federal career, Goldsmith served as Congressional Systems Analyst for the U.S. House of Representatives, Special Assistant to State Conservationist of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Management & Program Analyst with the Bureau of Land Management, and Hydrologist with the US Geological Survey.

Goldsmith states that one of her major focuses will be to work collaboratively with others as good stewards of the land and good neighbors. "I am excited and looking forward to working with our employees, communities, partners, and customers in caring for the public lands we, the Forest Service, have been entrusted to manage while serving the public," said Goldsmith.

Goldsmith has a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a Master's in Environmental Engineering. She is a graduate of the Forest Service's Middle Leader Program and the USDA Graduate School's Executive Leadership Program.

Wayne NF Celebrates its 75th Anniversary

One of the displays on 75 years of Wayne National Forest history from the Bob Evans Farm museum in Rio Grande, Ohio.

For the last six years thousands of people have learned about the Wayne National Forest through cooperative exhibits at the Bob Evans Farm Homestead Museum.

The fourth in a series of exhibits developed by the Wayne National Forest is now on display at the Bob Evans Farm Homestead Museum in Rio Grande, Ohio.



The museum is the original brick home of Bob and Jewell Evans. It was renovated as a museum to tell the story of their life and their restaurant business. Each year, historical exhibits in the upstairs rooms are rotated. The Wayne has worked with the Bob Evans Farm to develop exhibits on the Underground Railroad (2005), Coal Mining History (2006), and the history of Smokey Bear in 2009. This year, they have allowed us to tell our story – 75 years of the Wayne National Forest in Ohio.

The exhibit on the Wayne's 75 Years begins with a brief account of the beginnings of the

Wayne National Forest
13700 US Highway 33
Nelsonville, IN 45764
Phone: (740) 753-0101
Fax: (740) 753-0118

conservation movement and the Forest Service, followed by the Weeks Act. It then tells the story of the development of the Wayne – from the purchase of degraded and tax delinquent lands, to the history of the CCC camps, then the transformation of the Lands Nobody Wanted into the Forest of today.

The museum is open from April through December each year, and between 15,000 – 20,000 people come through who have never heard of the Wayne and have an opportunity to learn about Ohio's only national forest.

Another effort to tell about our history are public showings of the *Weeks Act* and *Green Fire* movies. *Greenfire* is the story of conservation and Aldo Leopold's life. The film is scheduled to be shown at Stuart's Opera House in Nelsonville on September 30th and the Twin City Opera House in McConnelsville on October 20th. Both historic opera houses date to the 1800s.



Wayne's Newest Employee Digs In

Hi I'm Latasha Lyte, a recent Forest Service Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) participant. My journey as a SCEP recently ended in September when I accepted a Soil Scientist position on the Wayne National Forest.

In 2005, my education journey began while I was enrolled as an undergraduate at Florida A&M where I was a student studying Agricultural Science. My initial endeavor in this field dealt with helping future generations in urban communities understand the importance of environmental protection, and how they could also pursue careers in the USDA Forest Service. One of the highlights of my year was when I participated in the Forest Service's Region 9 Conservation Educational Internship Outreach Program.

During the summer of 2006, from campus life in Tallahassee, Florida to West Virginia, I expanded my horizons into field studies on the Monongahela National Forest as a SCEP Soil Scientist. While on the Monongahela, I gained valuable field experience by collecting soil samples for analysis and leaves for watershed study, assisted archaeologist in an excavation project, participated in an Indiana bat study, and observed a trail design/redesign with civil engineers.

My next adventure, still as a student, was also provided by the USDA Forest Service's office on the campus at Florida A&M University – giving me an opportunity to work in water quality and soil laboratories. While working in these two places, I worked on water analysis projects, conducting preliminary water analysis, and also taught how to use laboratory/analysis equipment.

As a SCEP, I also worked on other Forests in the Midwest. On the Hoosier National Forest in Indiana, I helped with wetland reconstruction through surveying and implementing restoration practices, used ArcGIS/ArcView for mapping survey sites, and researched stand regeneration. On a two-week assignment on the Shawnee National Forest, I observed the effects on soils from prescribed burns, worked on trail-bridge maintenance, and participated in a hydrology-environmental project.

And finally, prior to my conversion to a full-time position with the Forest Service, I attended Alabama A&M, where I graduated from the Master's program in Plant & Soil Science.



*Working together to be your
Employer of Choice...*



Southern Tier National Forests - Job Opportunities

Forest Service Job Website:
www.fs.fed.us/fsjobs

Apply on-line:
www.avuedigitalcentral.com



Southern Tier Employer of Choice Champions

Jane Mobley, Mark Twain National Forest
Mary McCorvie, Shawnee National Forest
Marlene Rivero, Shawnee National Forest
Judi Perez, Hoosier National Forest
Ruth A Siddens, Hoosier National Forest
Devela Clark, Monongahela National Forest
Kate Goodrich-Arling, Monongahela National Forest
Gary Chancey, Wayne National Forest

Including many other contributors ...

Teena Ligman, Editor, Summer/Fall 2011 Issue
Karina Enriquez and Kameron Sam (Shawnee)
Sarah Hankens (Monongahela)

*Thanks to others who have supported us in
so many ways!*

Share your ideas! The Great Outdoors is a Great Place to Work!



There are many more EOC products that can be developed to share across the Southern Tier Forests. Please share your ideas with your committee members on the Hoosier, Mark Twain, Monongahela, Shawnee, and Wayne National Forests. Let's join together to highlight our successes and share information across the Southern Five Forests of the Eastern Region.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.